

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 SSO-00

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INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 PA-01 H-01 /108 W

-----107820 152354Z /66

O 152129Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9651

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 GENEVA 07448

E.O.11652: ADS, DECLAS 12/31/78

TAGS: WHO IS XF

SUBJECT: LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON DRAFT ARAB RESOLUTION
ON ISRAEL

REF: A. STATE 122736, B. GENEVA 7413, C. GENEVA
7390, D. GENEVA 7388

1. ACCOMPANIED BY DR BRYANT, DR FORTUINE AND BOB ANDREW,
I CALLED MONDAY MORNING, MAY 15, ON DR MAHLER TO REPEAT
AND UNDERScore IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS OUR
CONCERN FOR THE POSSIBLE REPERCUSSIONS IN THE CONGRESS
IF THE ARAB DRAFT RESOLUTION IN ITS PRESENT FORM IS
ADOPTED BY THE WHA, AS INSTRUCTED IN REFTEL A. WE
REVIEWED IN DETAIL OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION,
DRAWING NOT ONLY ON REFTEL A, BUT ALSO ON THE SORENSON-
MAYNES TELCON OF MAY 13. MAHLER ASSURED US ONCE AGAIN
THAT HE FULLY SHARES OUR VIEWS AND CONCERNS AND WOULD DO
EVERYTHING WITHIN HIS POWER TO GET THE OUTCOME WE SEEK.

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2. THROUGHOUT MONDAY, MAY 15, DELEGATION MEMBERS CONTINUED
TO WORK CLOSELY WITH OUR GROUP B FRIENDS. SPECIFICALLY
WE SPOKE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NETHERLANDS, CANADA,
FRANCE, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, THE UK AND JAPAN. BRIEFLY,
THE POSITION IS THAT THEY ARE STILL AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS
FROM CAPITALS. THE JAPANESE WERE TOTALLY UNINFORMED,
AND PROBABLY PLANNED IT THAT WAY. THE DUTCH AND THE
BELGIANS CONTINUE TO EXPRESS CONCERN, BUT ARE WAITING
FOR THE EC-9 TO COME BACK WITH A COMMON POSITION.
KILGORE OF THE UK BELIEVES THAT ANY EFFORT TO CHANGE THE
ARAB DRAFT SUBSTANTIALLY WILL FAIL. THE FRENCH TELL US
THAT THEY HAVE APPROACHED THE SYRIANS TO GET THE DRAFT
MODERATED AND HAVE BEEN REFUSED.

3. WE ENLARGED OUR CONTACTS WITH OTHER G-77 PARTICIPANTS.
DR DE CAIRES CONTACTED HECTOR ACUNA, DIRECTOR OF PAHO.
ACUNA SAID THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THE ARAB DRAFT AND THAT,
AMONG THE LATINS, MEXICO, PERU AND COLUMBIA WERE
PARTICULARLY DISTURBED AND WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE
TO MODERATE THE TEXT. I SAW AMBASSADORS KIBRIA (BANGLA-
DESH) AND ALATAS (INDONESIA) WHO, SO FAR, SEEMED UN-
APPRISED OF THE STATE OF PLAY, BUT AGREED THAT POLITICIZA-

TION WAS UNDESIRABLE AND THAT, ON PRINCIPLE, THEY WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE ANY MOVE THAT LED TO THAT END. DR BRYANT ALSO SAW DR TABA, DIRECTOR OF THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION OF THE WHO, WHO WAS OF THE OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THE ARABS TO CHANGE THEIR POSITION.

4. LATER ON IN THE AFTERNOON, DR BRYANT, ACCOMPANIED BY BOB ANDREW AND ROBERT FORTUINE, HAD A LENGTHY DISCUSSION WITH DR AL-AWADI, KUWAITI MINISTER OF HEALTH, WHO IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE ARAB GROUP IN THE WHA AS WELL AS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE A, ONE OF THE TWO MAJOR WORKING COMMITTEES.

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9652

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 GENEVA 07448

AL-AWADI EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE OVER OUR EXPRESSIONS OF DEEP CONCERN CONCERNING TEXT OF DRAFT ARAB RESOLUTION. AS WE VOICED RESERVATIONS ON CONSECUTIVE POINTS IN PARAS B, C, AND D, HE COUNTERED WITH STRONG DISAGREEMENT, CITING IN EACH CASE EXAMPLES OF ISRAELI ABUSES. HE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT US CONGRESS WOULD MOVE TO CUT OFF US CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE, AS HE SAW IT, RESOLUTION WAS NOT PROVOCATIVE, AND IT DID NOT CALL FOR INVOKING ARTICLE 7. IN LATTER CONNECTION, HE SAID HE AND THREE OTHER ARAB DELEGATES HAD WORKED HARD TO PREVENT OTHER DELEGATES FROM INCLUDING CALL FOR APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 7. IN EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH ANDREW, JORDANIAN DELEGATE SAID HE WAS PUZZLED BY US ALARM. HE SAID ARABS DID NOT BELIEVE RESOLUTION WAS INFLAMMATORY AND, IN ANY CASE, HE SAID IT WAS TOO LATE TO TRY TO INCORPORATE ANY IMPORTANT CHANGES.

5. IN THE MEANTIME, I CALLED ON EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR EL-SHAFEI TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERNS AND RESERVATIONS CONCERNING THE ARAB DRAFT. I ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY
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OF GETTING SOME OF THE MODERATE ARAB STATES TO INTRODUCE A NEW DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OUR OBJECTIONS. IN RESPONSE, EL-SHAFEI SAID THAT CAIRO WOULD HAVE TO MAKE A BASIC DECISION WITH RESPECT TO HOW

FAR IT COULD GO IN DISASSOCIATING ITSELF FROM A COMMON ARAB EFFORT IN THE LIGHT OF THE ISRAELI FAILURE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE SADAT INITIATIVES. HE SAID THAT THE DRAFT WHICH WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT (REFTEL D) HAS ALREADY UNDERGONE SOME REVISIONS -- THE LAST AS LATE AS THIS MORNING -- AND THAT IT REPRESENTS A JOINT EFFORT OF ALL THE ARAB DELEGATIONS WHO ARE ACTIVELY INVOLVED. HE CONFESSED THAT HE IS STILL AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAIRO, SO THAT IT WOULD STILL BE POSSIBLE PERHAPS TO AFFECT HIS INSTRUCTIONS THROUGH APPROPRIATE INTERVENTIONS BY OUR EMBASSY, IF THIS WERE DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

6. IT WAS CLEAR TO ME THAT, UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, EL-SHAFEI PLANS TO TRY TO ADHERE TO A COMMON ARAB POSITION. IN THE ABSENCE OF INSTRUCTIONS, HE DID AGREE, HOWEVER, TO TRY TO MODERATE THE EXISTING DRAFT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OUR CONCERNS. HE SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT HE WOULD TRY TO INSERT LANGUAGE INTO THE DRAFT WHICH WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT ANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE CHanneled THROUGH UNRWA, AS IT IS NOW. HE POINTED OUT THAT, IN THIS CONNECTION, THE SUBSTANCE OF PARAGRAPHS B-1 AND 2 ARE REALLY THE SAME AS PARAGRAPHS 6 AND 7 OF LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION. WITH RESPECT TO PARAGRAPH B-3, HE SAID THAT HE WOULD TRY TO GET LANGUAGE INSERTED THAT WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE CONTRIBUTIONS CALLED FOR IN THIS PARAGRAPH WOULD ALL BE VOLUNTARY. CONCERNING MY ARGUMENTS THAT SECTION C REPRESENTED AN UNNECESSARY AND UNJUSTIFIED POLITICIZATION OF THE ORGANIZATION, EL-SHAFEI ARGUED THAT, IN FACT, THE PRACTICES DESCRIBED IN THAT SECTION REFER TO THE SECTION OF THE REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS HAVING

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TO DO WITH THE EFFECT ON THE MENTAL HEALTH OF ARAB CITIZENS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AS A RESULT OF ISRAELI ACTIONS (GENEVA 7006). IN THE LIGHT OF ISRAELI BEHAVIOUR, EL-SHAFEI COULD NOT BELIEVE THAT HE WOULD SUCCEED IN GETTING MANY ARAB GOVERNMENTS TO AGREE TO MODERATE SUBSTANTIALLY THIS SECTION EXCEPT PERHAPS TO

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9653

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 GENEVA 07448

RELATE IT MORE CLOSELY TO THE FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE
OF EXPERTS ON THE MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

7. TURNING TO SECTION D OF THE RESOLUTION, EL-SHAFEI
SAID THAT THIS REFERS TO A DECISION TAKEN BY THE ISRAELI
AUTHORITIES WITHIN THE LAST THIRTY DAYS THAT WILL REQUIRE
ALL PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL WORKERS ON THE WEST BANK TO APPLY
FOR NEW LICENSES FROM THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES IN ORDER
TO CONTINUE TO PRACTICE. THIS MOVE, ACCORDING TO EL-
SHAFEI, SUPPLANTS AN ALREADY EXISTING JORDANIAN LAW
UNDER WHICH THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LICENSED UP UNTIL NOW
AND IS, THEREFORE, IN DIRECT CONTRAVENTION OF THE GENEVA
CONVENTIONS. HE CALLED IT A DELIBERATE MOVE BY THE
ISRAELI AUTHORITIES TO HARASS THOSE IN THE MEDICAL AND
HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND TO MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR
THEM TO WORK ON THE WEST BANK. IT IS, THUS, AIMED AT
FURTHER "JUDAIZING" PALESTINE, HE SAID, AND ASKED HOW
ANY COUNTRY THAT TOOK A BALANCED LOOK AT WHAT WAS HAPPEN-
ING IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES COULD CONSIDER THIS
MOST RECENT MOVE JUST BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE WORLD
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HEALTH ASSEMBLY WITHOUT FEELING SOME JUSTIFIABLE CONCERN
ABOUT ISRAELI MOTIVES. INDEED, HE FELT THAT, ON THIS
SCORE, THE ISRAELIS HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY PROVOCATIVE,
ALTHOUGH, AT THE SAME TIME, HE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION
THAT THEY HAD AGREED TO ALLOW THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
TO ENTER THE TERRITORY AND PREPARE ITS REPORT.

8. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE OAU DELEGATES WILL BE MEETING
THIS EVENING, ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT BE SURE THAT THE ARAB
RESOLUTION WILL BE ON THEIR AGENDA. OUR GUESS IS THAT
THIS ITEM COULD NOT POSSIBLY COME UP BEFORE WEDNESDAY
AND PROBABLY WILL NOT COME UP UNTIL PERHAPS FRIDAY.
WE WILL CONTINUE TUESDAY TO DO EVERYTHING
POSSIBLE TO GET SUPPORT FOR A MORE MODERATE RESOLUTION.
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vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/728d1c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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